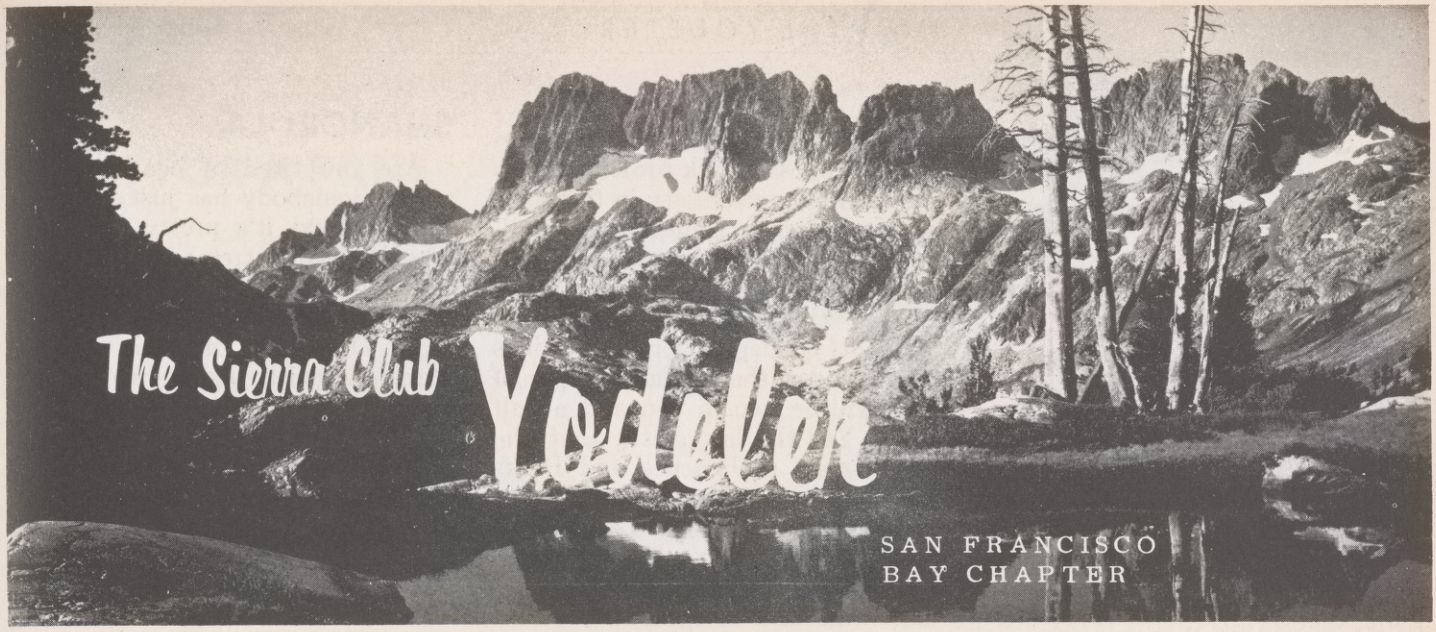

VOLUME XX | FEBRUARY 3, 1958 | NUMBER 3

CONSERVATION NOTES

On Making Mistakes

Did we confuse you by our notice in the last *Yodeler* about the Olmsted family? Obviously this writer was confused too, starting off with a fine flourish in the wrong direction. We hope the fine notice in the January *Bulletin* has helped to straighten things out. Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., died many years ago and it was the recent death of his son of the same name which was the first subject on the agenda at the January Board meeting. Fortunately this type of mistake is more annoying than serious, and luckily we have been fairly free from the other kind in this column. However, we do wish to take this opportunity to emphasize that anything in our news column which may influence action by Chapters or members is most carefully checked before printing. All we can say about errors which creep in is that we will give lots of publicity to corrections that are due.

Items of Local Interest

The Chapter Conservation committee heard a report on those sites for future parks in Alameda County which are considered desirable by the County Planning Commission. The County Board of Supervisors recently arranged an excursion to visit these sites. Randal Dickey went along and was able to give us details of the best possibilities. The Garin ranch is one which was described in a recent *Yodeler*. It lies east of the Niles-Hayward highway with hills and canyons within easy distance of the new towns on the southern shores of the Bay. Another site further south is wooded canyon country on the Geary Road near Calaveras Reservoir east of Mission San Jose. This land is owned by the City of San Francisco but they get no water from it and might consider leasing it to Alameda County. It was considered the best site visited. Niles Canyon was also considered worthy of inclusion as a park, both for riverside recreation and as an historical site. The full report may be seen at the office of the County Planning

(continued on page 2)

DOCTOR PROCTOR SAYS:

Ned Robinson's requests for comments about The Yodeler and The Annual Dinner have elicited the following massive response:

"My personal opinion is: keep the production and subscription policy of The Yodeler as it is; if it is to be put on a general distribution to the entire membership then it may as well be combined with the Bulletin and this, I fear, might detract from both. I would agree with a less elaborate and expensive annual dinner."

—Wallace Proctor, M.D.

(continued)

IF YOU ARE A SKIER . . .

You have probably seen the pamphlet titled "How to Negotiate Safely through Ice and Snow." This useful information (how to start, stop, prevent and come out of skids, tips on the use of chains, and much more) was compiled with the aid of the State Highway Patrol for use by anyone on the winter highways.

By distributing this pamphlet widely, the FWSA hopes to greatly increase the safety of the highways and by-ways this winter.

—Don Huber

Help Support Your Sport— Join FWSA

Individual membership	$3.50
Membership through Member Club (Sierra Club is a Member)	$2.50
Spouse Membership	$1.50
Junior Membership (Under 18 years)	$1.25

For further information on the pamphlet or FWSA, write to

—Don Huber
802 College Ave.
Kentfield

Sierra Club Yodeler

A semi-monthly publication of the San Francisco Bay Chapter. Address all communications to: Yodeleditor, Sierra Club, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco 4.

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NEXT DEADLINE: February 17, 1958

VOLUME XX, NO. 3 FEBRUARY 3, 1958

CONSERVATION: (continued)

Commission on 13th Street, Oakland.

The Citizens committee which is trying to preserve the lands around San Pablo reservoir from sale by E.B.M.U.D. are working on various public bodies and city departments to persuade them to speak up and request that the lands be "kept on ice" until we see what developments may come during the next few years. The water company's claim that they need capital from the sale of lands to finance improvements looks ridiculous beside the amounts involved in financing the plan of expansion recently revealed to the public.

Twenty Steps to a Park

Two valuable reports have just been completed which involved patient, unglamorous work by members, one for the Club Conservation Committee and one for the Chapter Conservation Committee. The Mother Lode Chapter undertook to find out why acquisition of lands for State Parks proceeds at such a snail's pace. Their report lists twenty steps of procedure. The project must go three times before the State Park Commission, three times before the Dept. of Natural Resources, four times to the Dept. of Finance. It spends at least 45 days before the Public Works Board. (This Board decided in 1956 that it should examine all proposed Park projects.) Two weeks may be necessary in the offlce of the Attorney General. If everybody is willing and anxious to acquire the land (which seldom happens) it still takes a year to complete a sale. If condemnation proceedings are necessary the minimum lapse of time will be two to two and a half years. Yet the law states that the Department of Beaches and Parks has the responsibility of handling acquisitions. Perhaps the Legal Committee of the Club will be able to suggest ways of breaking this log-jam while still safeguarding public money.

The other piece of work was a detailed map of lands adjoining or in close proximity to Mt. Diablo State Park. It was made by Mary Leo Bowerman who spent many hours among county records at Martinez, digging out the names and addresses of owners of these parcels of land. Such detailed knowledge is most valuable where local sales of land may complicate the plans for acquisition to the Park.

—C. M. C.

SHANGRI-LA

Are you tired of hearing about snow? Somebody has just the place for you, and it's pretty far away. The Algarve (extreme south of Portugal) has, and we quote, "wonderful rock cliffs, sandy beaches, warm sea in December. Inland is very picturesque, with people in regional costumes, oxen ploughing, burros doing everything. Very cheap, very clean, and wonderful cooking."

This the W. B. Evans report, direct. Oh, boy, nobody will ever find us!

Are You Taking Full Advantage of All The Sierra Club Can Offer??

Dear Sierra Club:

You did it again. We met on a Sierra Club hike last summer, and here we are already married two weeks, which we spent hiking around in the canyons in Death Valley...wonderful trip.

We would like to get a joint membership now...

—Elsie and Wesley Plunkett

PAINS FOR A PANE

At 10:30 p.m. on January 18 fifteen stout-hearted adventurers embarked on a dangerous mission. Don Warto was designated as the "carrier", the man whose job it was to deliver the goods. Phyllis Lindley and Simon Miedema, chiefs of the operation, mapped out the trail and led us to our destiny. Doug Peterson, the poleless wonder, was our "runner". He ran ahead—up and down the mountains, breaking trail; then returning to comfort the weary in their battle against the elements. The rest of us had to cover the trail and surrounding area.

After packing our knapsacks with grub and gear and fastening our snowshoes, we bade farewell to civilization and started out to face the unknown. How could we foresee the dangers that lay ahead: wild animals, freezing temperatures, the icy ridge and winds that would force us to our knees!

Simon was our front leader, while Phyllis took the rear guard position. Everything went according to plan in the forenoon and we anticipated an easy and successful accomplishment of our journey's end.

About l p.m. we had a short lunch stop beside a waterhole. We gulped down some refreshment, and then forward once more! We were stirred by an inner urge to keep moving—then Phyllis discovered the temperature was 25 degrees.

Onward, ever onward—one foot in front of the other—'til suddenly, there it was: our challenge and ultimate test! Could we meet it? Would we return the victors?

There we were, jealously guarding the delicate package we were sent to deliver, when dead ahead loomed a treacherous, icy ridge we had to cross! Our shoes could not find a firm hold on the ice, and we slipped, at times being knocked over by an evil, 54 mph wind which was blowing snowflakes into our eyes, blinding us.

We struggled valiantly until we realized we were endangering the safety of our fragile treasure—so we were forced to abandon it along the way in order to devote all our energies to saving our lives.

Will all be lost? Will our journey be in vain? Will we come out alive?

Upon reaching our rendezvous (Peter Grubb Hut) and counting noses, we found, to our joy, that we all had made it and there was great rejoicing!

Now all we had to worry about was retrieving our abandoned treasure and completing our mission. Don Warto and Doug Peterson set out together to face the elements. By this time the gale had subsided a bit and they were able to bring back the precious package: a pane of glass to replace the cracked one at Peter Grubb Hut (bet you thought it was the carton of eggs that Clyde Wiborg sat on!)

Following a tremendous meal of steak, potatoes, peas, Andrea Moffet's delicious salad, and Pauline Lee's tasty orange jello and coconut dessert, we spent a delightful evening singing to the accompaniment of Nancy del'Arbre's recorder, Pauline Lee's harmonica, Clyde Wiborg's basso-cantante voice "Ho-ho-ho, you and me???" and Simon's sound effects. We really gave "Greensleeves" a working over!

A good night's sleep and hearty breakfast (next user of the Hut, try Clyde's new pancake syrup) readied us for the long trek back.

The hike home was a cinch without the wind; and the highlight of the return trip was the red fox that Pauline spotted.

We arrived back at Clair Tappaan with aching muscles, but enough energy left over to folk dance before dinner (what a bunch of diehards, huh?) and a firm resolve to go again as soon as possible!

—Marge Batty

(continued)

HAVASU REMINDER

Here's a subliminal reminder: Havasu!

Next time that name flashes through your mind, ask yourself if you have yet made your reservations for the special-for-Sierrans trip through this part of the Grand Canyon country the week of April 7-12. Joe Wampler, who conducts this trip every spring and fall, will give SC members special rates that week.

Full details were in the January 20 *Yodeler* and can be had by contacting Pauline Lee, 2517 Virginia Street, Berkeley 4, THornwall 3-8194.

. . .AND WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY?

You can always learn something on SC hikes.

This was the moral of the February 1 hike along the Pan Toll-West Point-Mill Valley circuit. The something you learn may be to identify wild lilac, iris and manzanita, which were already in bloom along the trail. (First person to guess why the spring flowers are so early this year wins a mud puddle!)

Or the something you learn might be uncomfortable, such as what happens when you wear Capezios on a steep downgrade.

But the something that was learned for all time by all 13 on the hike that day was the answer to this: Why does Kay Thody so carefully taste snacks given her by others?

Hugo Bjork wondered if Kay was afraid of being poisoned, the way she analyzed the special-treat Swiss cookie he gave her.

The answer to the riddle is below, for all to decode:

AKY ETCAEHS OCKONIG!

—A. R.

Western Sierra Nevada—July 12-Aug. 2, 1958
Base Camp Type of Trip
Limit 50
Cost: $95 per 2-week period
For details and reservations write:
JOE WAMPLER
BOX 45, BERKELEY 1, CALIFORNIA

THE EDITOR'S COLUMN
(And Away We Go!)

After seeing Elaine Carl's announcement of the Skiing in Switzerland movies at the East Bay dinner, I had to see the movies, and probably no event ever ended up so expensive—and I didn't even have dinner there! I've wanted to return to Europe since before I left there on the last trip, and when I saw those films...(!!) And when I asked the Swissair man there if the 3rd class airline fares were going into effect and he said, yes—That did it!!!

The next couple of days I got my picture for Mr. Dulles' little green book, and paid him his $10—he's more trusting now and took a check which he wouldn't do before. I now have Federal approval for my trip, "I hereby request all...to permit safely and freely to pass...and to give all lawful aid and protection...signed John Foster Dulles."

Enclosed with the passport was a little folder which was so impressive that some extracts are worth quoting: Wherever I go I am above all, what the world knows as an "American", and to those I meet in the countries ahead, *I am America. I'm the foreigner now*, from another land, creating a picture of the kind of country and the kind of people I come from. Through me, America can appear thoughtful or patronizing, appreciative of the countries I visit or selfish in the conviction that the world revolves around me... among the people I see I can help overcome any feeling that America is a land that thinks money can buy everything...to these lands I can offer admiration and understanding of the things they take pride in... End of quotes. Interestingly enough, the passport is not good for some communist controlled areas, but is valid in Russia itself.

Back to the airlines, poor Swiss Air! After doing the selling job, they lost out on the sale. My reservation is on Icelandic, which has always undercut the other lines, and when the other lines establish a 3rd class fare Icelandic goes down too. Aloft for Stavanger, Norway on April 1—

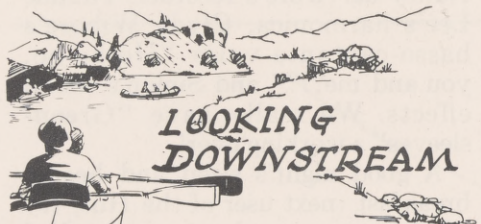
(continued)

I'd have preferred leaving on the Glasgow flight the day before but that's 11 hours before the rates go down.

At least two airlines told me they expect to discontinue Tourist class. It's easy to see why, for when I asked what they could say to sell me Tourist instead of Thrift class, they replied "Well, if a hot meal and 2 inches more leg room is worth $100 to you..."

This all isn't completely definite as Federal approval isn't enough, *I* have to get approval by the State of California also—that's the outfit I work for when I'm not Yodelediting. We think we may have the Yodeleditorship during my absence licked—but of course, want to emphasize that even more than before, we'll need new staff members. Come and join us, and maybe you can write about yourself, too.

—H. F.



At a recent Steering Committee Meeting of the River Touring Section, so many folks were making plans and setting dates for their vacations that a preliminary announcement seemed in order for the benefit of those who are interested in the Club River trips. While there is a remote possibility that some dates may have to be changed, the following schedule has been o. k. 'd by the Club Outing Sub-Committee on Rivers.

Dinosaur I (Yampa & Green)	Tues., June 17 to Sun., June 22
Dinosaur II (Ladore)	Wed., June 25 to Mon., June 30
Dinosaur III (Ladore)	Thurs., July 3 to Tues., July 8
Salmon (River of No Return)	Wed., July 23 to Thurs., July 31
Glen Canyon	Wed., Aug. 27 to Thurs., Sept. 4

Foldboaters will be wecome on all the trips and will be under the leadership of a competent paddler who will have the final word as to which rapids may be run by boaters of various abilities. We hope we can count on Roger Paris for this.

This year a new trip has been added. The Salmon--River of No Return--just the name sounds thrilling! And with so many fine shorts being shown on movies and TV of this and other exciting rivers it should introduce a goodly crowd of fun lovers and nature enthusiasts to the magnificient scenery of Idaho.

We understand this will be run at the height of the fishing season and since we will have extra time on this trip some of you fishermen should really plan on joining us. The dates have been set so as to enable Sierra Clubbers to go from the Salmon to the other club trips in the same general vicinity with plenty of time for travel.

-- A. Louis Elliott

FOR SALE

Skis—Lund '.Top Flight", 6'6", Ebonite bottom, unused, with bindings and poles. Paul Russell, 3810 Sacramento St., SF 18, EVergreen 6-0529.

Ski-boots, to fit ladies size 7-1/2, and ski-pants size 14, both almost new. Nylon climbing rope, new, 3/8" diameter, 120 foot length. Helen Pierson, 860 Sutter, SF, PRospect 5-1522, 5:30/6:00 or 9:30 to 10:00 (all times p.m.)

Ski-climbers, Austrian, genuine seal, 6 feet long, $9. Women's oxfords, Austrian, after-ski, combination seal and fancy leather trim, $8. Marion Mitchell, 1031 San Antonio Ave., Alameda, LAkehurst 2-0236 after 7 p.m.

Henke Ski-boots & racks, size 5M, used once, was $38, now $25. Slalom ski-pants, n.blue, size 24" waist, used once, was $23, now $15. Ski-jacket, nylon, with parka, n.blue, size 34, used once, was $12, now $8. Sleeping bag, zipper on both ends and one side, used once, was $16, now $12. Mittens, poplin leather palm, 10", with wool liners, used once, $2. Ski-cap with long tassel, knitted, maize with brown, very warm, $2. Evelyn Mengel, JOrdan 7-7495, after office hours.

CTL NEWS *(January 18—19)*

New arrivals! The McGillicuddys announced the birth of octuplets (8) to their friend "Flicka". They are pure-bred Samoyed. Anyone interested?

My spies tell me that the weather this weekend was cold and clear, with winds of high enough velocity to close the chairs; however, Signal Hill was in operation both days, with only a short stop to splice the chain gear on Saturday. Roger Paris, ski instructor, was busy teaching the "new technique" to aspiring and perspiring pupils: "It ess zee hup motion."

Meanwhile, the tourers to Bradley Hut were enjoying good snow and weather. From all reports, a good time was had by all. "Nothing like this ski touring!"

Saturday night those in the dining room were treated to a tour of Japan via many of Don Huber's slides; shall we try Hawaii next?

Sunday, there was a fun slalom on Signal, but since no one brought down names or times they can't be printed here. On second thought, maybe the results "accidentally" got lost?

One Sierra Clubber's results didn't get lost! In fact, they made the papers: Don Rehbein came in second in the Class C Birthday Giant Slalom at Squaw Valley. Congratulations, Don!

(January 25—26)

The big news this weekend concerned the Lodge Committee Meeting, held Saturday night. Items of general interest that were discussed: there will soon be available to anyone who asks, printed descriptions and sketches of how to get to all of the Sierra Club Huts in the vicinity (Peter Grubb, Benson, Bradley, and Ludlow); the fact that transportation to the Lodge is such a problem. For the latter, two solutions were presented. One, that drivers needing riders, or vice-versa, may get in touch with one another by dropping in at the Sierra Club Office in San Francisco or at the Jim Davis Sports Shop in Berkeley and signing up in the ride book—no phone calls please. The other solution is such a simple one, why didn't we think of it before? Every Friday might a chartered bus leaves the San Francisco Key System Terminal at 6:15, stops in Berkeley at 7 P.m. (where there is ample parking at the SP Depot), then goes nonstop (except for a coffee stop at Glen Alder) to CTL. Sunday night it leaves the Lodge at 6 and arrives in the Bay Area at 10:30 or 11. Just think: no chains or shovelling! All this for $6. Make your Lodge and bus reservations at the same time. If you are a member, you can take advantage of the bus even if you're not staying at the Lodge.

Suggestions you, the users of the Lodge, have made concerning activities and utilization of existing and proposed rooms, were brought up at the meeting, and turned over to committee for further study. The subject will be discussed more fully at the next Lodge Committee Meeting.

Skiing on Saturday was quite good after the slope was packed by the more daring skiers, who carefully filled their sitzmarks (excuse please, my German is rusty). Slalom practice was held, for those who needed their heads examined, under the patient tutelage of Jim Nicklos.

Saturday evening arrived and with it a new storm! About 8 to 12 inches fell during the night and at least that much and more during the day. This snow was good skiing tho, real powder. Even the snow bunnies could push it around.

All in all the last weekend in January was quite a success! Hope you had fun too!

—Roberta Codis

THOSE INTRIGUING FARALLONES

On clear days we can see, just on the horizon, some little islands out in the Pacific. They are not mysterious to one man, Mr. Allyn G. Smith of the California Academy of Sciences, who spent a week there on a Naval Research program. Along with telling about resources, history (which is long and varied), and geology of the islands, Mr. Smith will show slides on the Farallonians and how they live. Come along with us on our visit, Wednesday, February 26. Please phone Marjorie Kelso at LAndscape 6-3439 before 10 p.m. Monday, February 24 for 6:30 dinner reservations at Willard Jr. High School, Berkeley.

—Elaine Carl

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Dear Yodeleditor: Maybe you'd like to know—if you don't already—that Georgie White is to be in the Bay Area in March. She is showing pictures at Roos Bowl Monday through Friday, March 10-14; says she is to be there from 11 to 3 daily, showing pictures of all rivers. In addition, she hopes to turn up for the River Touring Section meeting on Tuesday evening, 3/11, and at the East Bay Dinner on Wednesday, 3/12. She asked me to let you know, for she hopes to see her friends "somewhere along the line."

She also shows in Sacramento Friday night, 3/14.

—Charlotte E. Mauk

MEXICO

On Friday, February 14, 1958, at 7:30 p.m. Bill Dorris and other Sierra Club members will show their slides of Mexico in the Assembly Room on the third floor of the Mills Building, 220 Bush Street, San Francisto. Revisit Mexico with us. All members and friends are invited. Admission free.

Yodeler

The Sierra Club
1050 Mills Tower 220 Bush Street
San Francisco 4, California

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OUR COVER PICTURE shows Kay and George Homsey heading uphill behind Signal in the new snow January 25. Bob McGillicuddy took the picture.

A BIRTHDAY PARTY

The Golden Gate Story League of San Francisco invites you to join in the celebration of their 20th birthday party. Come for DESSERT OF CAKE AND COFFEE at 7:30 p.m. and hear the members tell "Around the World Stories." The date is Thursday, February 20, at the new Recreational Arts Building, corner of Duboce and Scott Streets. "N" street car takes you right there, get off at tunnel. Plenty of street parking. Send reservations with $1 to Miss Amy Deeter, 2440 Market St., SF 14—Deadline February 18.

The group is sponsored by the Recreation-Park Department of this city and is one of a hundred story-telling leagues in the nation.

—Advertisement

I. AND E. CONFERENCE

On March 15-16, 1958, delegates and members from all SC chapters will meet with Club leaders to discuss the special problems they meet in spreading the Club's ideal of conservation to our own members and to the public.

This *Conference on Information and Education* will be similar to the one held in 1956, and will review what has been done by the Chapters since that date and what can be done in the future.

The SF Bay Chapter will be host to out-of-town members who register for the Conference, and Club members around the Bay are cordially invited to attend. Genny (Mrs. G. P.) Schumacher of Bakersfield is chairman of the conference.

Information can be obtained through the Sierra Club office or the Executive Committee of the SF Bay Chapter.

Remember the date—Saturday, March 15, and Sunday morning, March 16—and place—Josephine Randall Junior Museum, San Francisco.

—C. M. C.

MIXED UP SKIS — MIXED UP SKIERS

Somebody somewhere (probably in the Bay Area) is skiing around on skis six inches longer than he or she is accustomed to, and the bindings don't fit quite the way they once did. Hal Anger will be happy to meet up with this person.

The unintentional mix-up occurred on the SC charter bus the weekend of January 18-19, when someone getting off in Berkeley took Hal's skis (not really his; he rented them) instead of his or her own, which look like Hal's.

Vital statistics: the skis Hal rented: 6'9'' long, green labels near tips, ski-free bindings; the skis Hal temporarily possesses: 6'3'' long, natural wood color with black bottom, same type bindings.

The person described in paragraph 1 above should contact Hal at 5761 Vicente St., Oakland 9, daytime phone AShberry 3-6000, ext. 8450, night phone OLympic 2-7668.